AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-18 are pending in the instant application. Claims 2-3, 6, 8-9, 14 and 17-18 have been amended. The Applicant requests reconsideration of the claims in view of the following amendments reflected in the listing of claims.

Listing of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for providing communication in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the method comprising:

broadcasting at least one discovery message to at least one of a plurality of access points;

receiving a response from said at least one of a plurality of access points, said response reporting a presence of at least one access device located within a coverage area of said at least one of a plurality of access points; and

requesting from said at least one of a plurality of access points, a status of said at least one access device located within [[a]]said coverage area of said at least one of a plurality of access points.

2. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said requesting further comprises sending at least one status request message to said

at least one of a plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 2, further comprising, receiving from said at least one of a plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located, said at least one status reply message indicating [[a]]said status of said at least one of a plurality of access device[[s]].

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein one or more of said at least one discovery message, said at least one status request message and said at least one status reply message [[is]]comprises a messaging protocol message.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein said broadcasting further comprises[[ing]] broadcasting said discovery message from one or more of a server, a switch and at least one of said access points.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 5, wherein said broadcasting further comprises broadcasting said discovery message only to access points located in a particular subnetwork.

7. (Currently Amended) A machine-readable storage, having stored thereon a computer program having at least one code section for providing communication in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the at least one code section executable by a machine for causing the machine to perform the steps comprising:

broadcasting at least one discovery message to at least one of a plurality of access points;

receiving a response from said at least one of a plurality of access points, said response reporting a presence of at least one access device located within a coverage area of said at least one of a plurality of access points; and

requesting from said at least one of a plurality of access points, a status of said at least one access device located within [[a]]said coverage area of said at least one of a plurality of access points.

8. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 7, wherein said requesting code further comprises code for sending at least one status request message to said at least one of a plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located.

9. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 8, further comprising[[,]] code for receiving from said at least one of a plurality of

access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located, said at least one status reply message indicating [[a]]said status of said at least one of a plurality of access device[[s]].

10. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 9, wherein one or more of said at least one discovery message, said at least one status request message and said at least one status reply message [[is]]comprises a messaging protocol message.

11. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 7, wherein said broadcasting code further comprises code for broadcasting said discovery message from one or more of a server, a switch and at least one of said access points.

12. (Currently Amended) The machine-readable storage according to claim 11, wherein said broadcasting code further comprises code for broadcasting said discovery message only to access points located in a particular subnetwork.

13. (Currently Amended) A system for providing communication in a hybrid wired/wireless local area network, the system comprising:

at least one broadcaster ~~adapted to~~ that broadcast<u>s</u> at least one discovery message to at least one of a plurality of access points;

at least one receiver ~~adapted to~~ <u>that</u> receive<u>s</u> a response from said at least one of a plurality of access points, said response reporting a presence of at least one access device located within a coverage area of said at least one of a plurality of access points; and

a requester ~~adapted to~~ <u>that</u> request<u>s</u> from said at least one of a plurality of access points, a status of said at least one access device located within [[a]] <u>said</u> coverage area of said at least one of a plurality of access points.

14. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 13, wherein said requester ~~further~~ comprises a sender ~~adapted to~~ <u>that</u> send<u>s</u> at least one status request message to said at least one of a plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located.

15. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 14, wherein said at least one receiver ~~is adapted to~~ receive<u>s</u> from said at least one of a plurality of access points within whose coverage area said at least one access device is located, at least one status reply message indicating [[a]]<u>said</u> status of said at least one ~~of a plurality of~~ access device[[s]].

16. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 15, wherein <u>one or more of</u> said at least one discovery message, said at least one status request message and said at least one status reply message [[is]]<u>comprises</u> a messaging protocol message.

17. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 13, wherein said at least one broadcaster ~~is further adapted to~~ broadcast<u>s</u> said discovery message from one <u>or more of</u> of a server, a switch and at least one of said access points.

18. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim 17, wherein said broadcaster ~~is further adapted to~~ broadcast<u>s</u> said discovery message only to access points located in a particular subnetwork.